



DC Public Education Landscape

June 14, 2021

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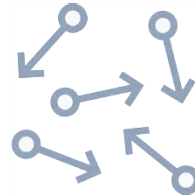
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Population and Students Contents



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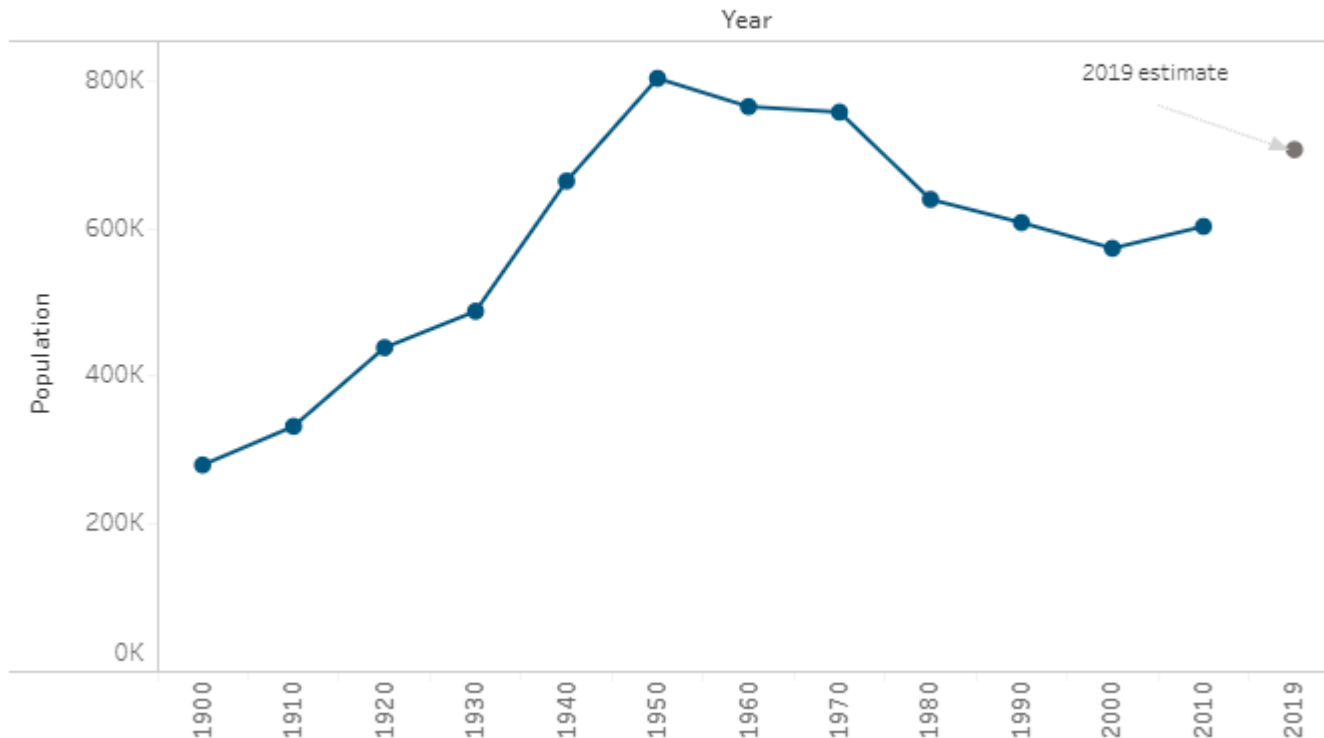


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Total Population Trends

After decades of decline, Washington, DC's population started increasing after 2000. Between 2000 and 2010, the District grew by almost 30,000 residents. Between 2010 and 2019, the Census estimates that the District added another 100,000 people (although we will not know the actual increase until the 2020 Census).

Total Population in the District of Columbia, 1900-2019



Source: US Census Bureau and 2019 Population Estimates

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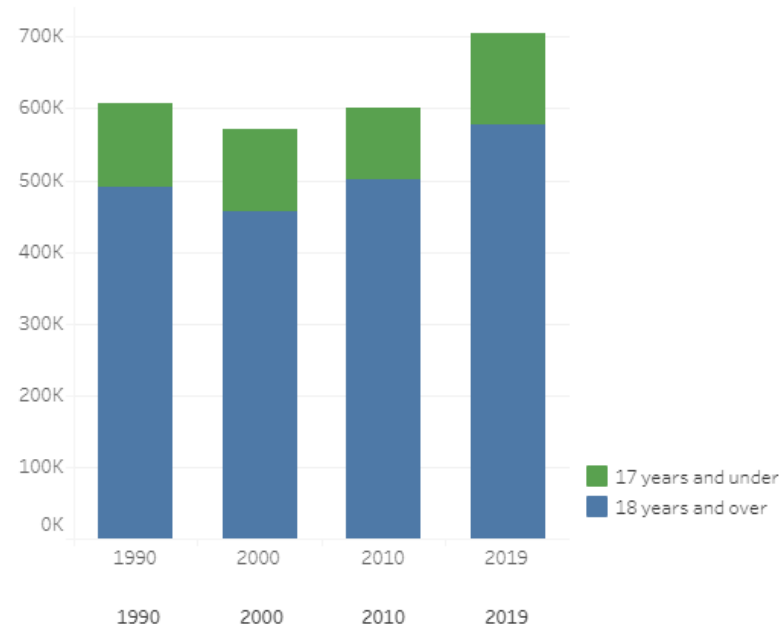


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Adult and Youth Population Trends

The adult population in Washington, DC (age 18 and older) started steadily increasing after 2000 while the child population (ages 17 and younger) started increasing after 2010. Between 2010 and 2019 (the latest data available by age group), the Census estimated that the adult population increased by almost 77,000 and the child population by more than 27,000.

Adult and Child Population in the District of Columbia, 1990-2019



Sources: US Census Bureau Decennial Census and 2019 Population Estimates

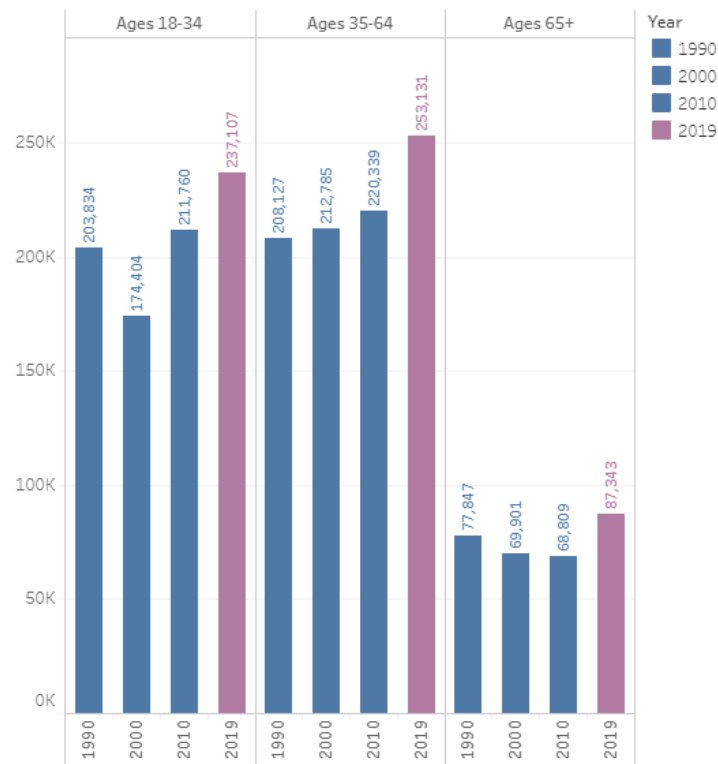


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Adult Population Trends by Age Group

The 18 to 34 year old age group grew substantially between 2000 and 2010, after declining the prior decade. Between 2000 and 2010, this “millennial” group grew by more than 37,000 people and they are estimated to have grown by more than 25,000 between 2010 and 2019. The number of 35 to 64 year olds jumped substantially between 2010 and 2019, growing by nearly 33,000 people.

Adult Population by Age Groups in the District of Columbia, 1990-2019



Sources: US Census Bureau Decennial Census and 2019 Population Estimates

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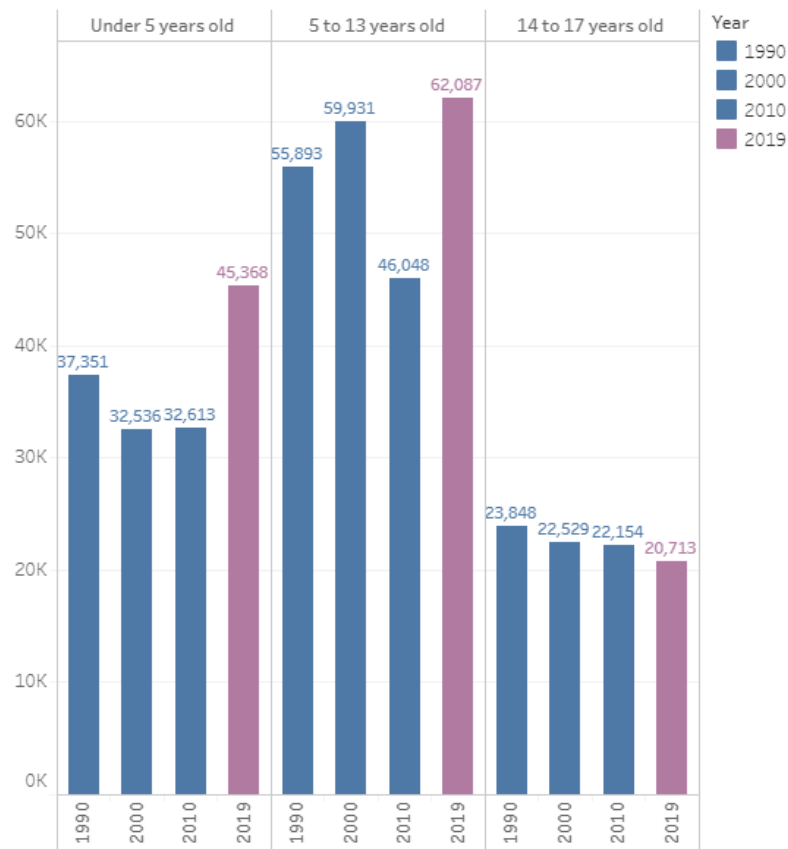


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Youth Population Trends by Age Group

The estimated number of children under age 5 and those aged 5 to 13 increased by almost 13,000 and 16,000, respectively between 2010 and 2019. The number of 14 to 17 year olds have steadily decreased since 1990.

Child Population by Age Groups in the District of Columbia, 1990-2019



Sources: US Census Bureau Decennial Census and 2019 Population Estimates

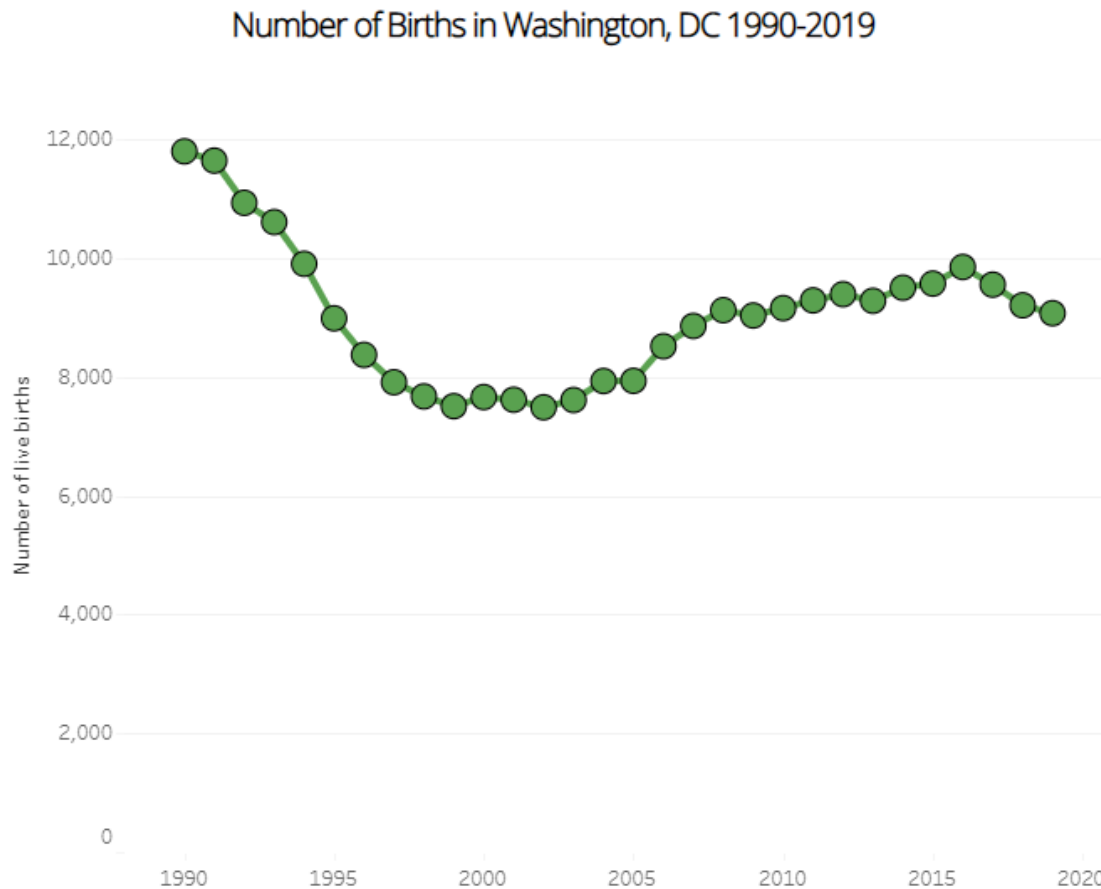
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Chapter 1. Population and Students

Number of Births

After steadily increasing since the early 2000s, the number of births began decreasing after 2016.



Sources: DC Department of Health, 2014 Infant Mortality Report. Data provided by DC Action for Children. For years 2007-2019, birth data are from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2007-2018, on CDC WONDER Online Database

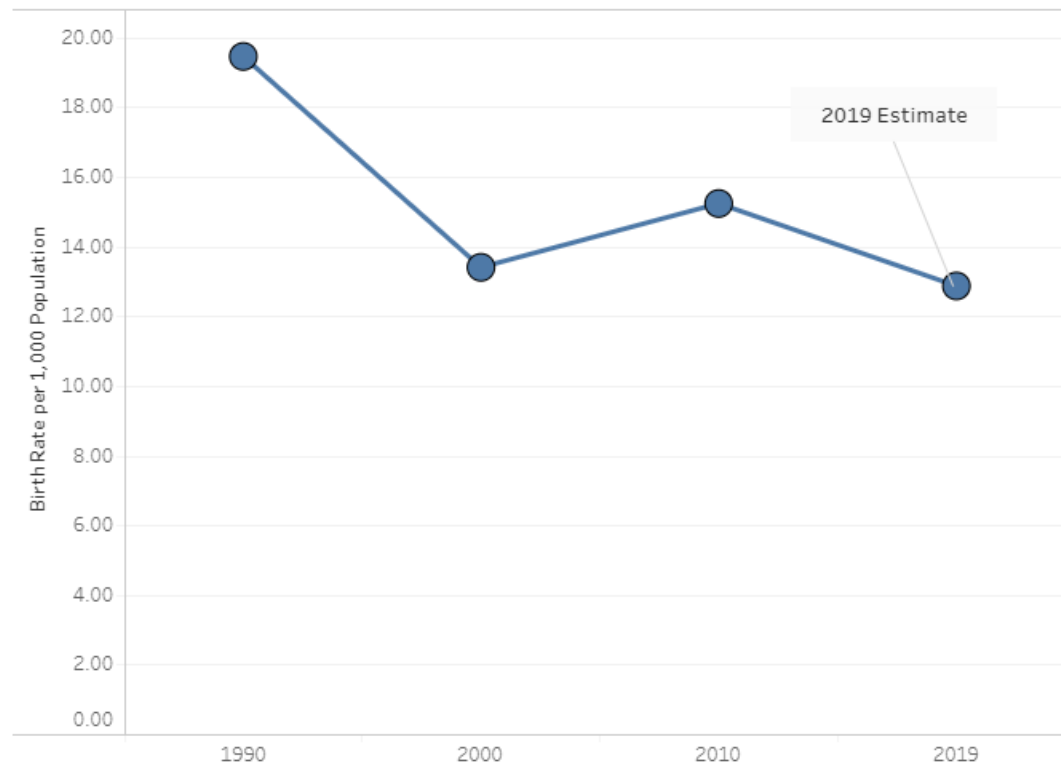


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Birth Rates

Similarly, birth rates (measured as the number of births per 1,000 population) have now dipped to 12.86 births per 1,000 population in 2019 after being estimated at 15.23 births per 1,000 population in 2010.

Birth Rate in Washington, DC, 1990-2019



Sources: DC Department of Health, 2014 Infant Mortality Report. Data provided by DC Action for Children. For years 2007-2019, birth data are from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2007-2018, on CDC WONDER Online Database

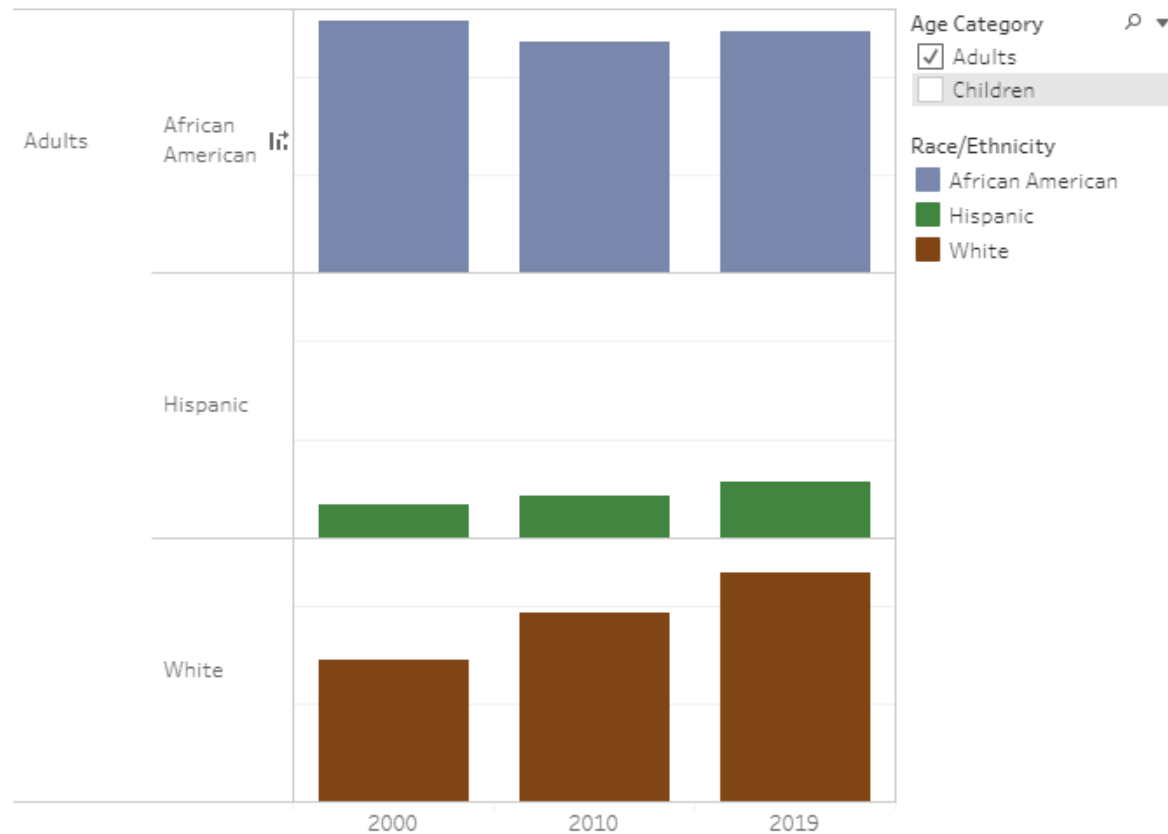


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Race and Ethnicity of Adults

The US Census provides population counts by race and ethnicity. The greatest number of adults living in Washington, DC are African American, at approximately 246,000 residents per the 2019 estimate. The number of African American adults decreased between 2000 and 2010 but then rebounded between 2010 and 2019. The number of white adults has been increasing since 2000 and is now estimated at 234,000 people. As of 2019, there were an estimated 57,622 Hispanic adults, which was an increase of 24,097 people since 2000.

Number of Adults in the District by Race/Ethnicity, 2000-2019



Sources: Census and Population Estimates

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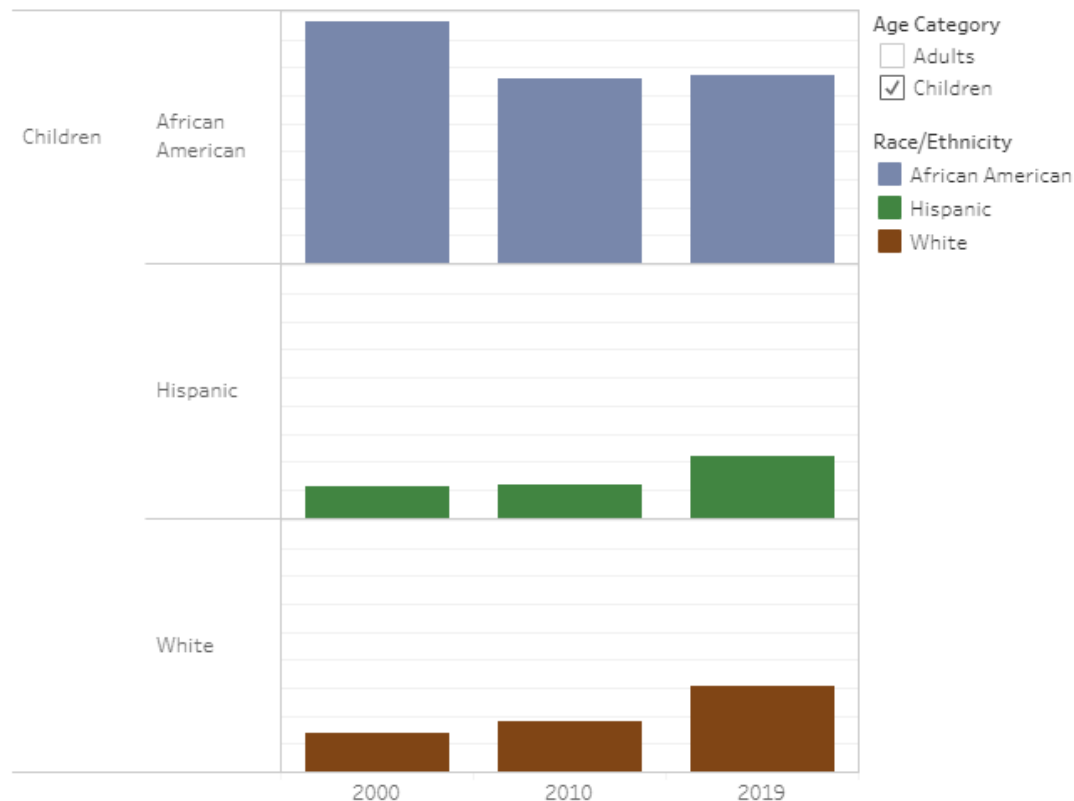


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Race and Ethnicity of Children

The greatest number of youth in Washington, DC are African American. This group was estimated to have decreased by 19,034 children between 2000 and 2019. The number of Hispanic children was estimated to have increased by more than 10,400 children during this time period, and white children increased by almost 17,000 children between 2000 and 2019.

Number of Children in the District by Race/Ethnicity, 2000-2019



Sources

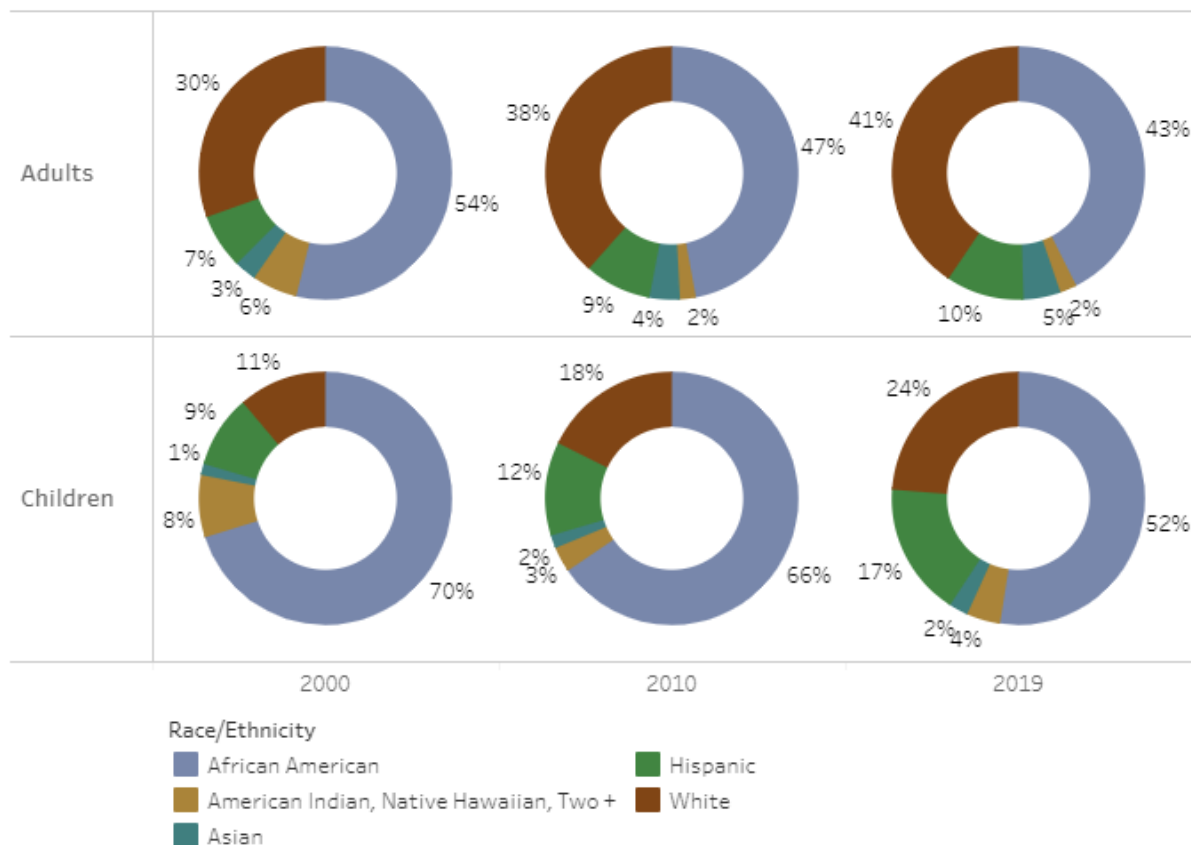


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Share of Adults and Children by Race and Ethnicity

The following displays the shares of adults and children by race and ethnicity over time. These pie charts reflect how the race/ethnicity of adults and children have become more diverse.

Share of Adults and Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2000-2019



Sources: Census and Population Estimates

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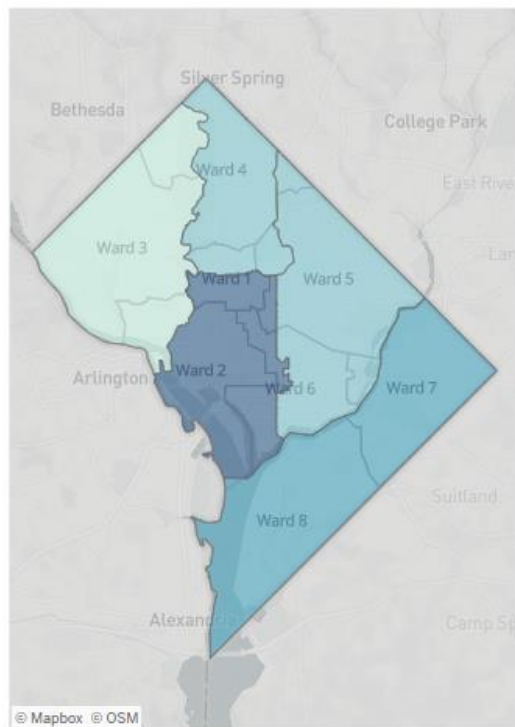


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Where Adults and Children Live

The American Community Survey provides estimates of the number of adults (ages 18 and older) and the number of children (ages 17 and younger) by five geographies, Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) (similar to but not the same as wards). More adults live in the center of the city and east of the Anacostia River compared to other parts of the city, while more children live east of the Anacostia River and the northern part of the city.

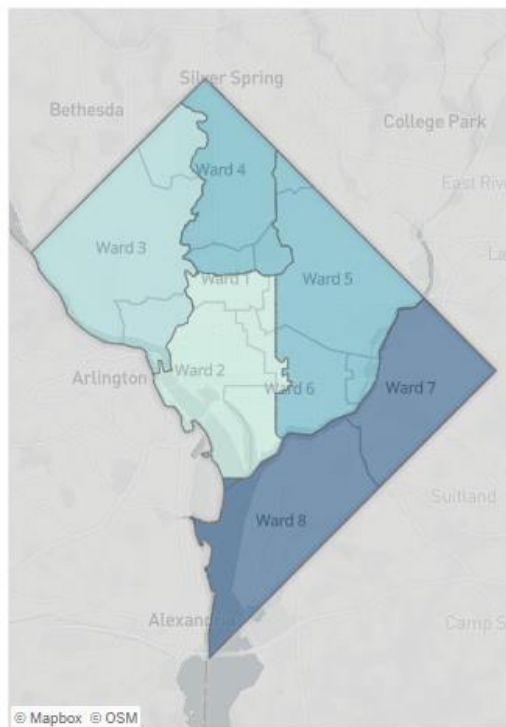
Estimated Number of Adults, 2019 (Ages 18 and Older)



Total 18 years and older

85,431 156,706

Estimated Number of Children, 2019 (Ages 17 and Younger)



Total 17 years and younger

11,482 47,144

Source: American Community Survey 2019

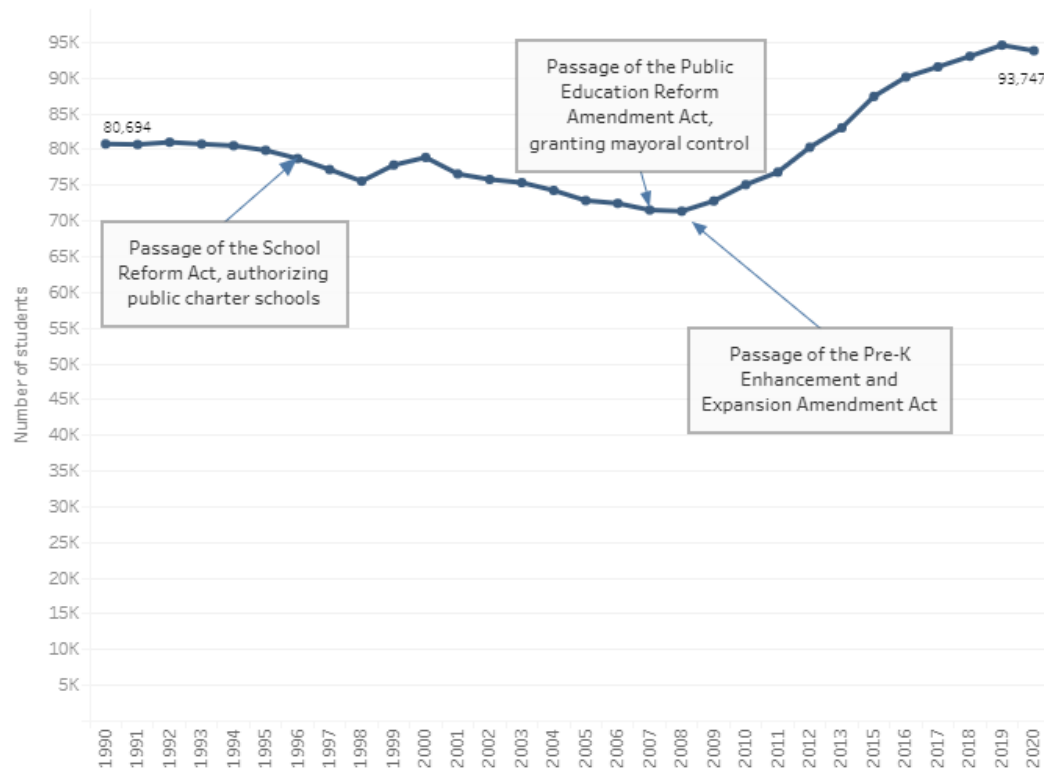


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Public School Enrollment Over Time

After decades of decline, public school enrollment (DCPS and public charter schools) began increasing annually starting in 2009. Between 2008 and 2019, public school enrollment increased by 33% or 23,242 more public school students during the time period. In 2020, a school year affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, enrollment declined to 93,747.

Total Public School Audited Enrollment, 1990-2020



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

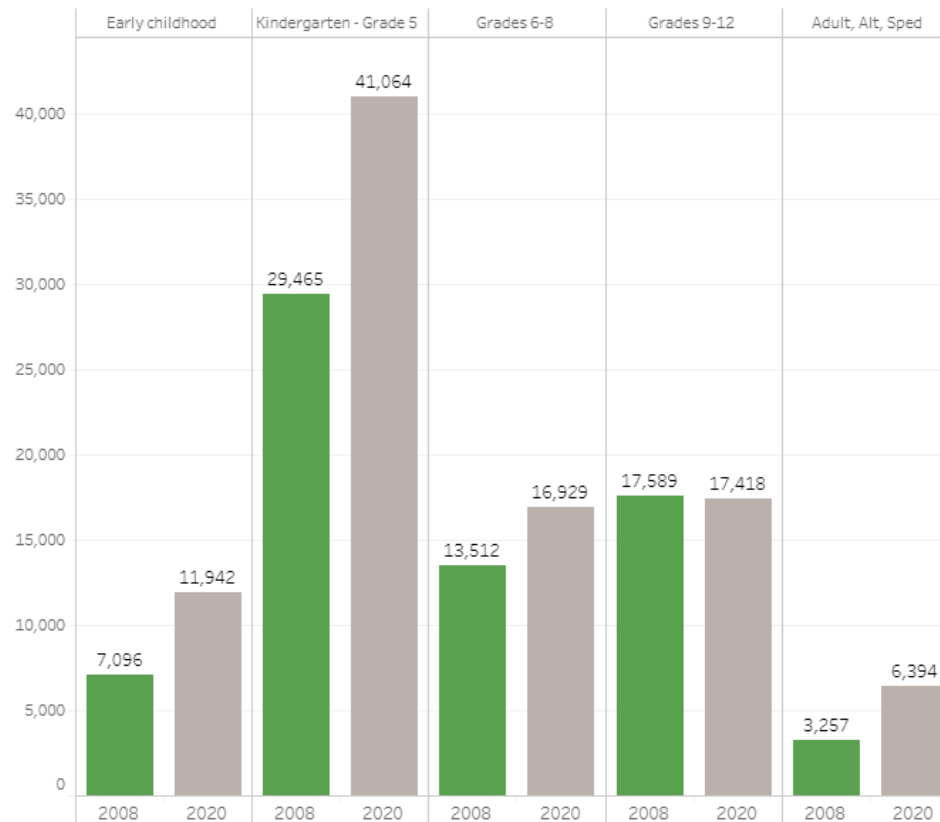


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Public School Enrollment by Grade Level

The largest enrollment growth between 2008 and 2020 was in the early childhood grades (PK3 and PK4) and elementary grades (KG-5th), at 4,846 students and 11,599 students, respectively. Middle school grades (6th-8th) grew by 3,417 students in the time period. High school students in grades 9-12 decreased by 171 students.

Number of Public School Students by Grade Band, 2008 & 2020



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY08-09 and SY20-21

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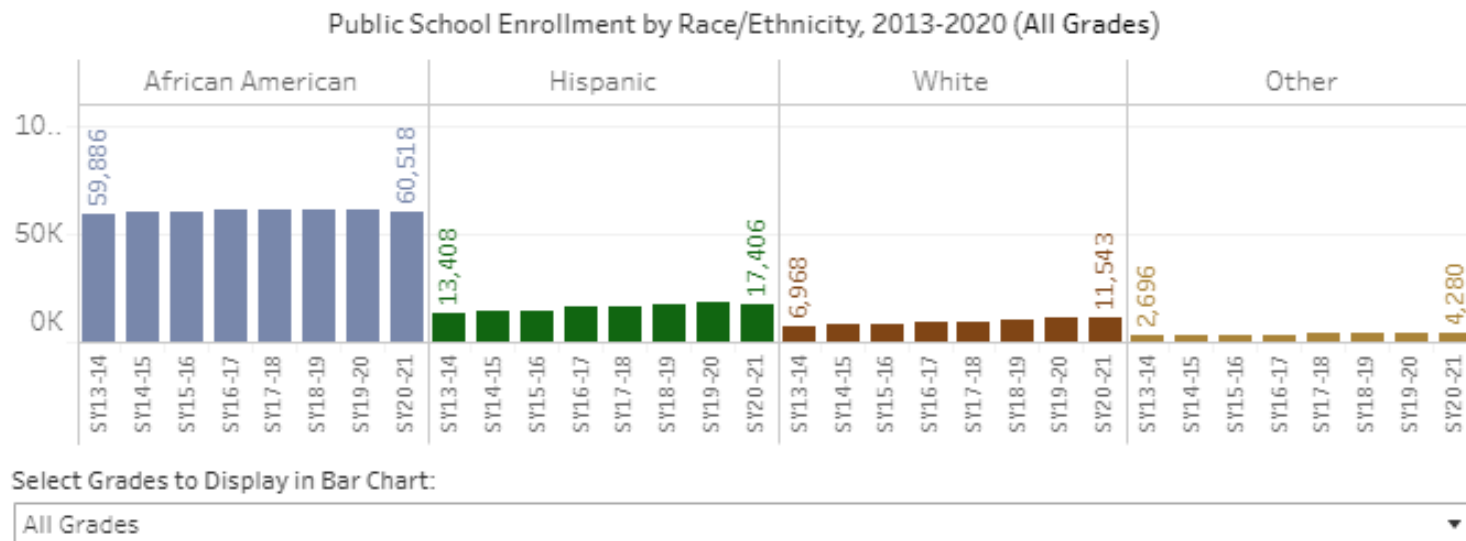


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Public School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity (Number)

The majority of the PK3-12th grade student population is African American. The number of Hispanic and white public school students has been growing since 2013, and the number of African American students began leveling off and even slightly decreasing after SY16-17. Fewer Hispanic and African American students enrolled in SY2020-21 compared to the year prior, presumably due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. See the interactive dashboard for information about specific grade levels.

Total Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, SY13-14 to SY20-21



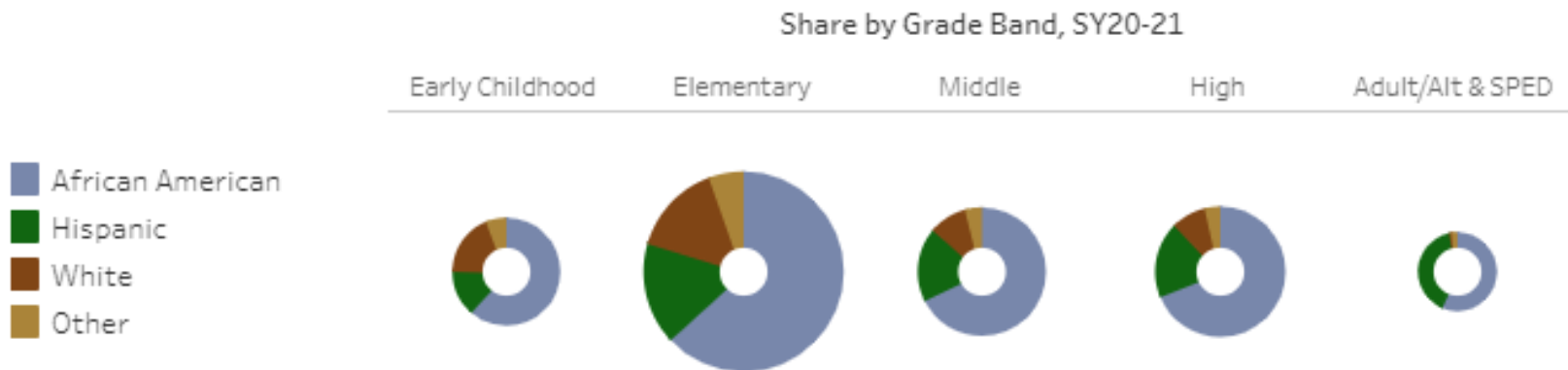
Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment



Chapter 1. Population and Students

Public School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity (Share)

The racial/ethnic makeup of the PK3-12th grade student population is becoming more diverse as the share of Hispanic and white students increase. By SY20-21, early childhood and elementary grades are more diverse than middle school and high school grades. In the high school grades (9th-12th), the Hispanic share of students increased the most compared to other racial categories (from 13% in SY13-14 to 19% in SY20-21).



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

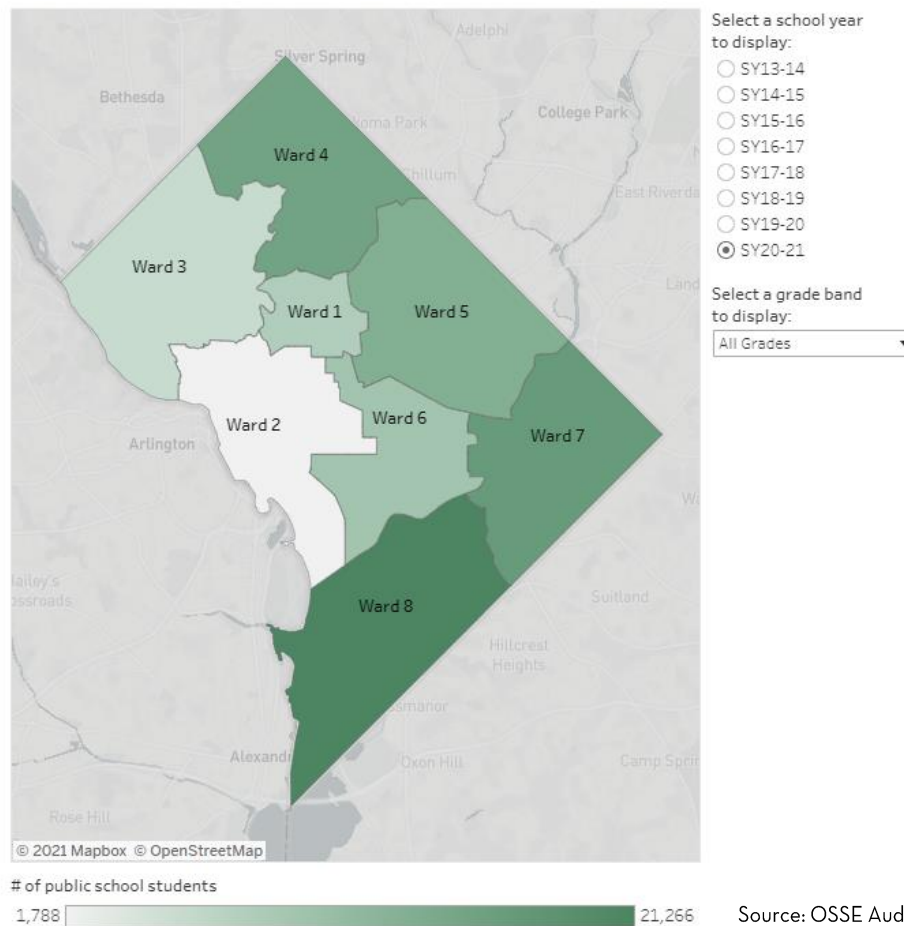


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Where Public School Students Live

The majority of public school students (all grade levels) live in Wards 8, 7, and 4. The patterns of residence are similar for elementary, middle, and high school aged (available on the interactive dashboard). Students attending public alternative schools or public adult schools are more likely to live in Wards 4, 1, and 8.

Where Public School Students Live by Ward, 2013-2020



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

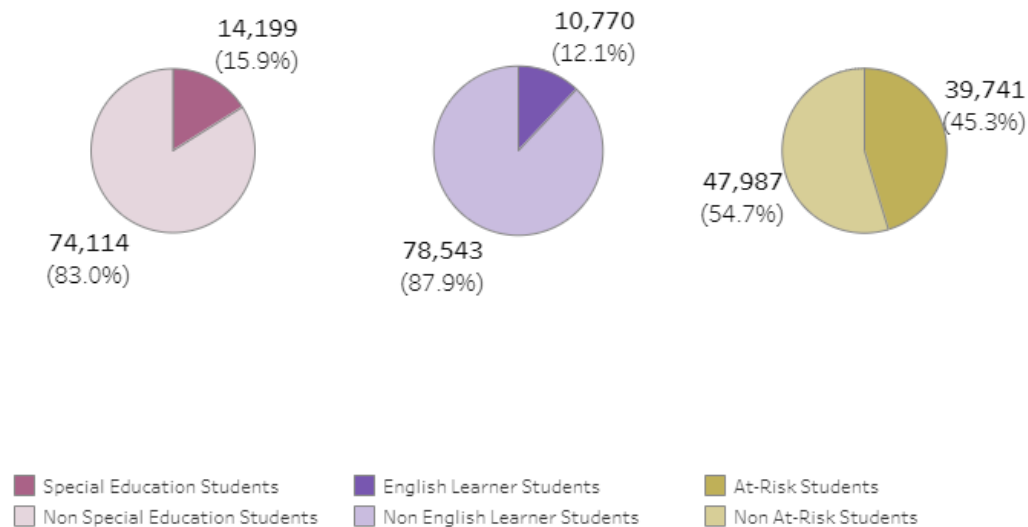


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Public School Students by Special Need Categories

Some public school students require additional educational services to ensure that they succeed in school. Three categories include special education students (16% of all age eligible students per the enrollment audit), English learner students (12% of all age eligible students per the enrollment audit), and students identified as at risk of academic failure (45% of students in eligible schools per the enrollment audit).

Number and Share by Special Need Categories, SY13-14 to SY20-21



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

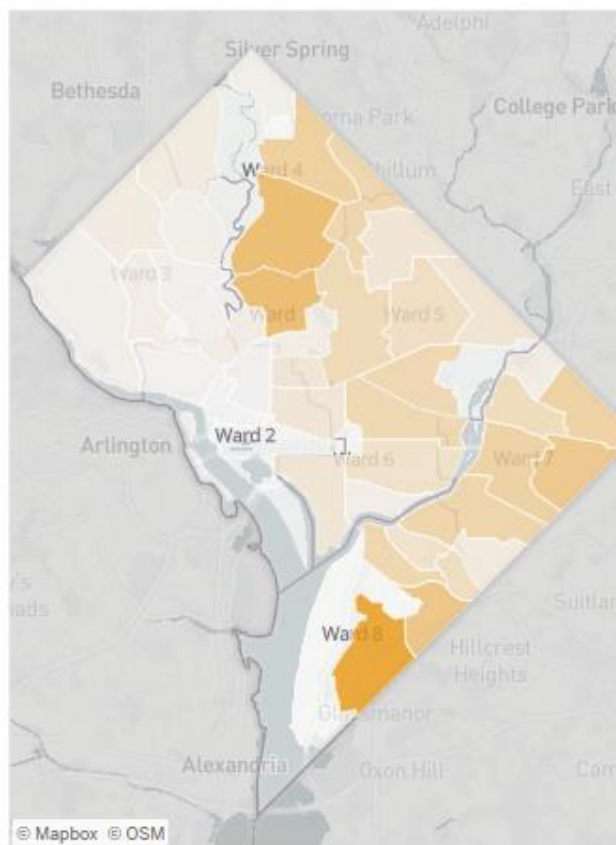


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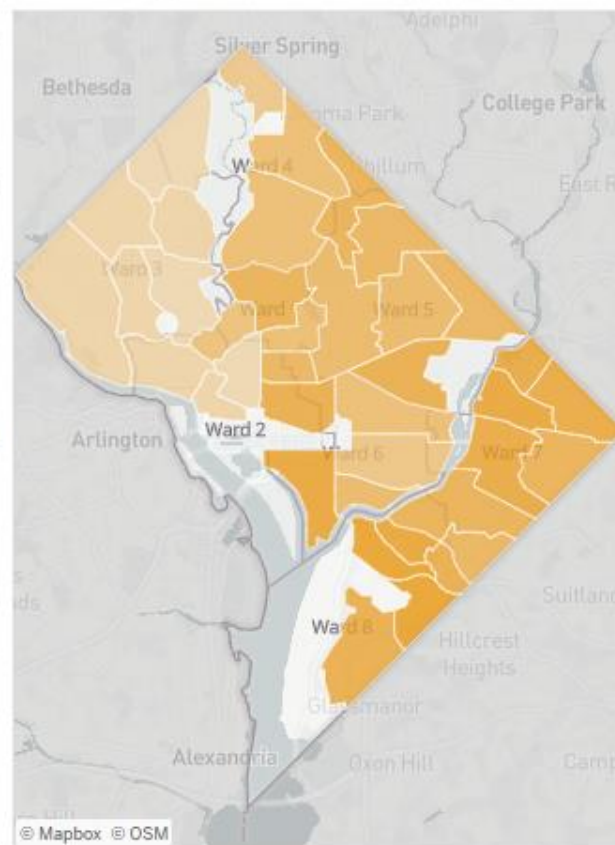
Where Public School Students Receiving Special Education Services Live

The concentrations of students receiving special education services mimic the overall public school population. The greatest number live in Ward 8's Congress Heights (Cluster 39); Ward 1's Columbia Heights and Mt Pleasant (Cluster 2); and Ward 4's Brightwood Park and Petworth (Cluster 18). Barry Farm (Cluster 37), Shipley Terrace (Cluster 38), Southwest Waterfront (Cluster 9), Historic Anacostia (Cluster 28), and Mayfair, Hillbrook, Mahaning Heights (Cluster 30) have some of the highest shares of students who require special education services out of all public school students who live there.

Number of Students



Share of Neighborhood Cluster



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

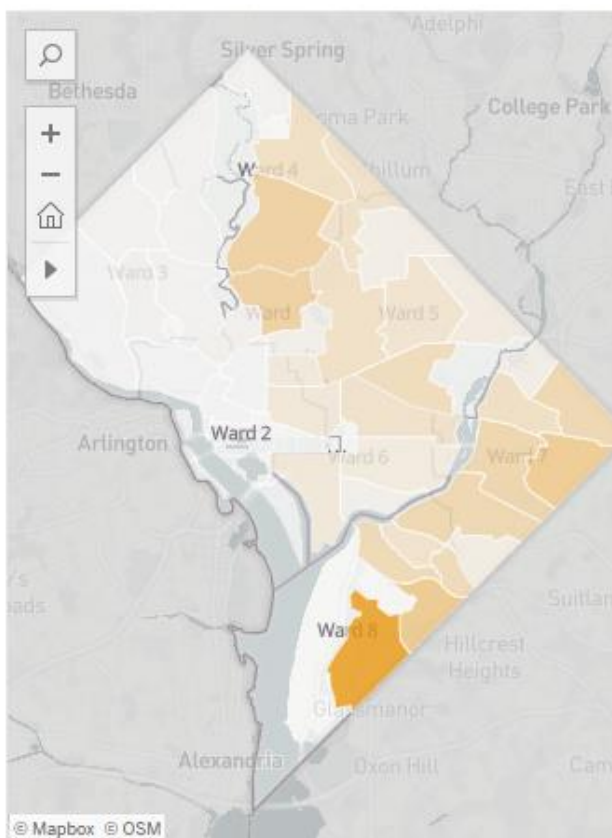


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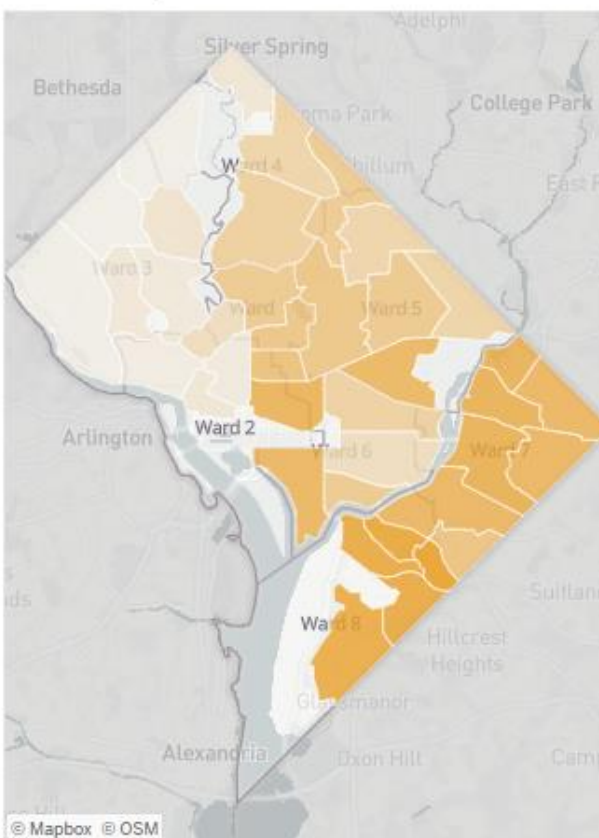
Where At Risk Public School Students Live

The concentrations of students at risk of academic failure mimic the overall public school population. The greatest number live in Ward 8's Congress Heights (Cluster 39) and Shipley Terrace (Cluster 38); Ward 7's Capitol View (Cluster 33); and Ward 1's Columbia Heights and Mt Pleasant (Cluster 2). Neighborhoods in Wards 8 and 7 have high proportions of at risk students, as well as neighborhoods such as Penn Quarter (Cluster 8), Southwest Waterfront (Cluster 9), and Ivy City (Cluster 23).

Number of Students



Share of Neighborhood Cluster



0 5,498 0% 77%

Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

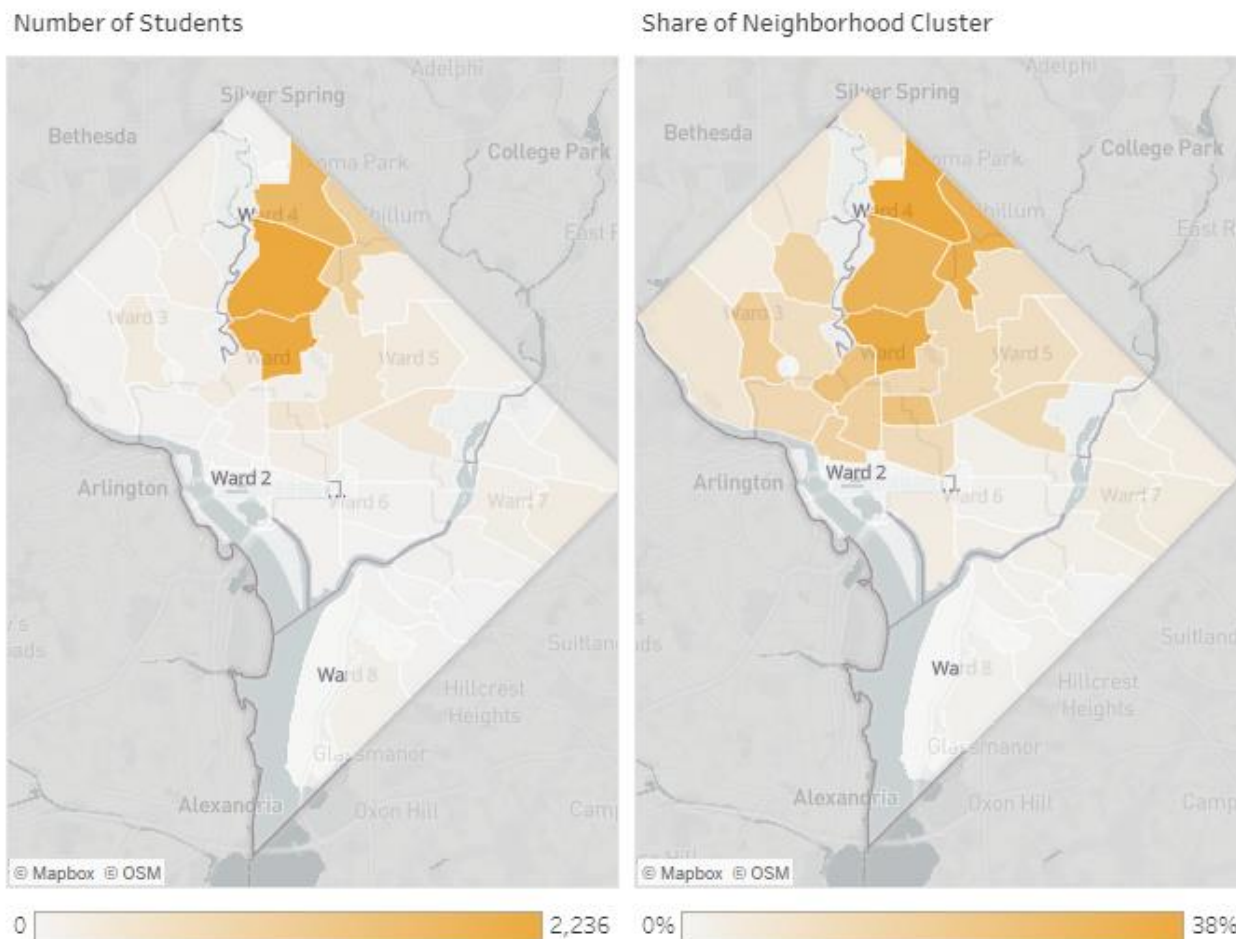
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Chapter 1. Population and Students

Where English Language Public School Students Live

English learners are concentrated almost exclusively in the following neighborhood clusters: Ward 1's Columbia Heights and Mt Pleasant (Cluster 2); Ward 4's Brightwood Park, Crestwood, and Petworth (Cluster 18); Ward 4's Takoma and Brightwood (Cluster 17); and Lamont Riggs and Fort Totten (Cluster 19). Neighborhood clusters in Wards 1 and 4 have the greatest proportion of English learner students as well.



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment

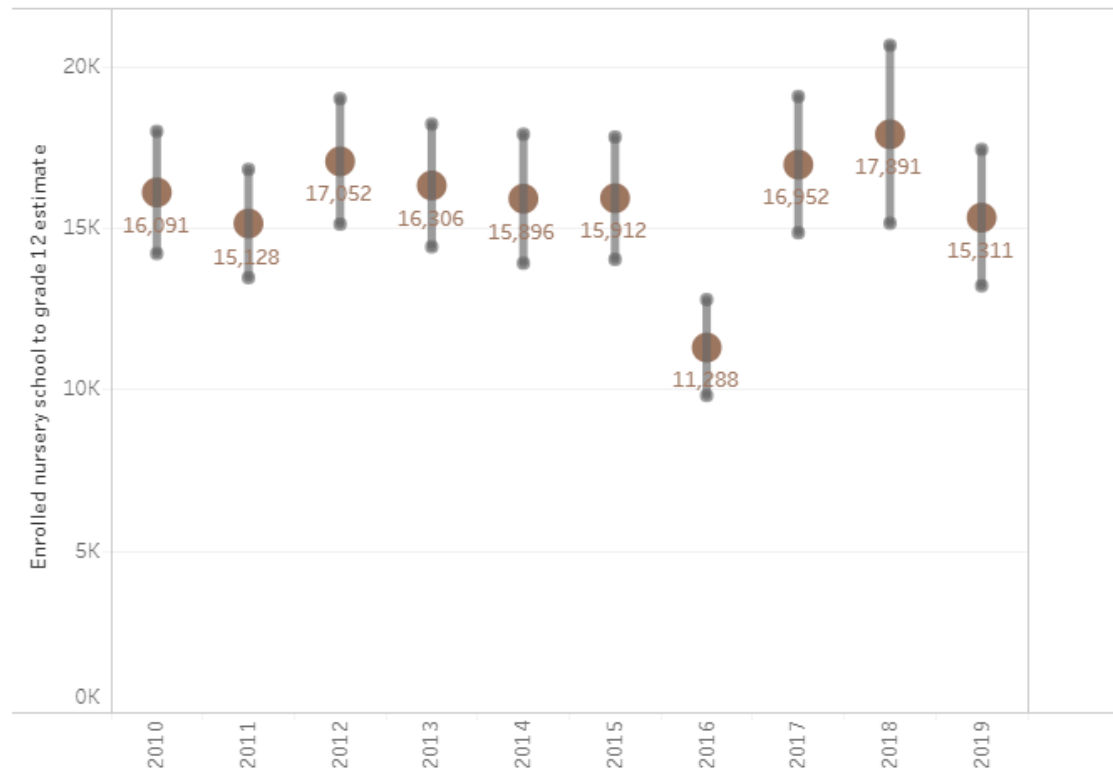


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Private School Enrollment

The American Community Survey (ACS) estimates with 90% confidence that between 13,200 and 17,422 nursery school through 12th grade students in Washington, DC attended private school between the time period of 2015 and 2019.

Estimated Private School Enrollment Nursery School through 12th Grade 2010 to 2019



Source: US Census Bureau Decennial Census (2010) and American Community Survey, 1 Year Estimates (2011-2019)

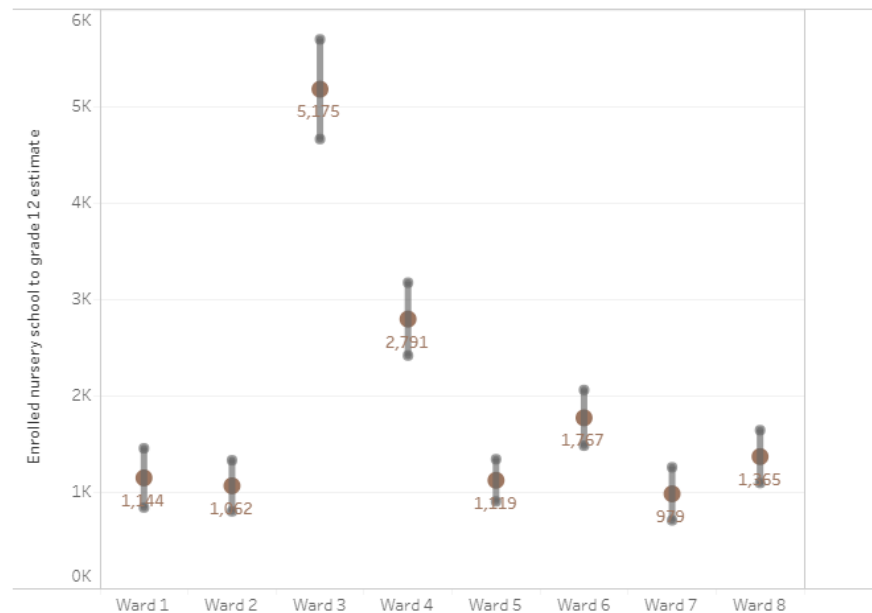


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Private School Enrollment by Ward

The number of private school students varies substantially by ward. Relying on the five-year American Community Survey estimates, between 4,658 and 5,692 students in Ward 3 attended private school between the time period 2015 and 2019 compared to Wards 1, 2, 5, 7, and 8 which had the lowest estimated number of private school students. Please refer to the "[Where Public School Students Live](#)" page, as a reminder for where the greatest number of public school students live in comparison to the private school estimates.

Estimated Private School Enrollment Nursery School through 12th Grade by Ward
5 Year Average (2015-2019)



Source: American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates (2015-2019)

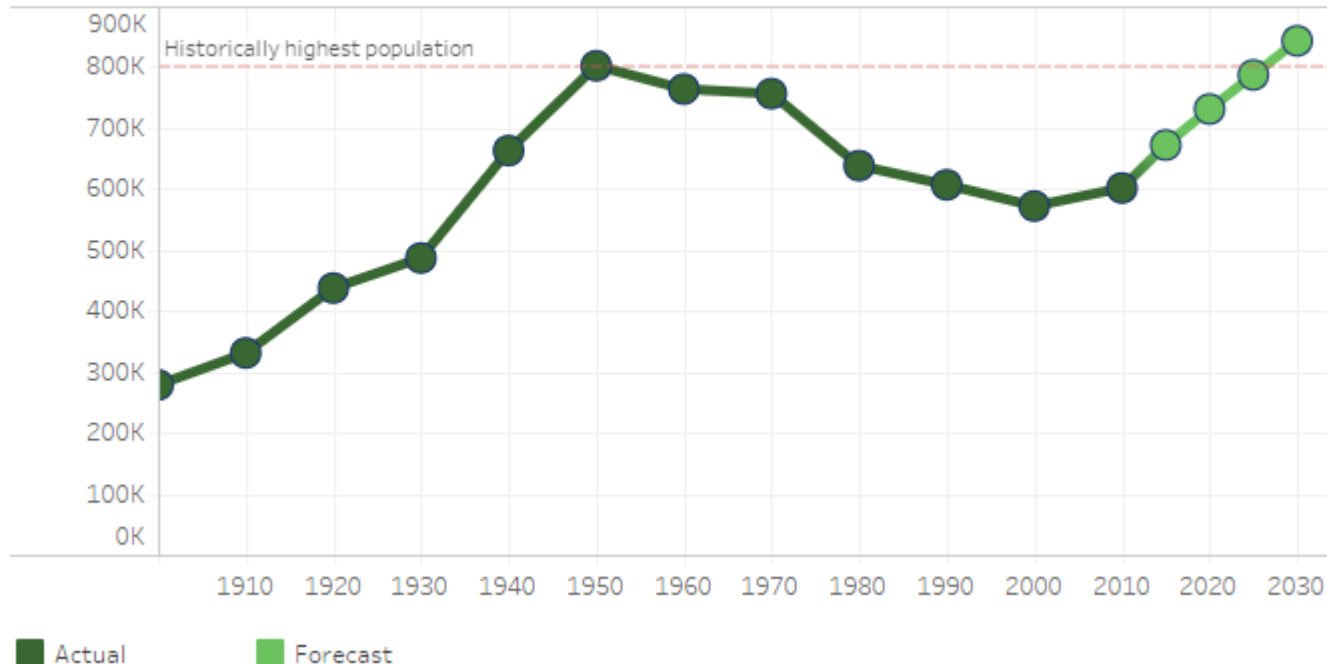


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Forecasted Total Population Growth

The DC Office of Planning forecasts that the District will continue to grow in population for the next 20 years, potentially surpassing the District's highest population of 802,178 people in 1950.

Actual and Forecasted Total Population in the District, 1900 – 2030



Source: US Census Bureau and DC Office of Planning Forecasts

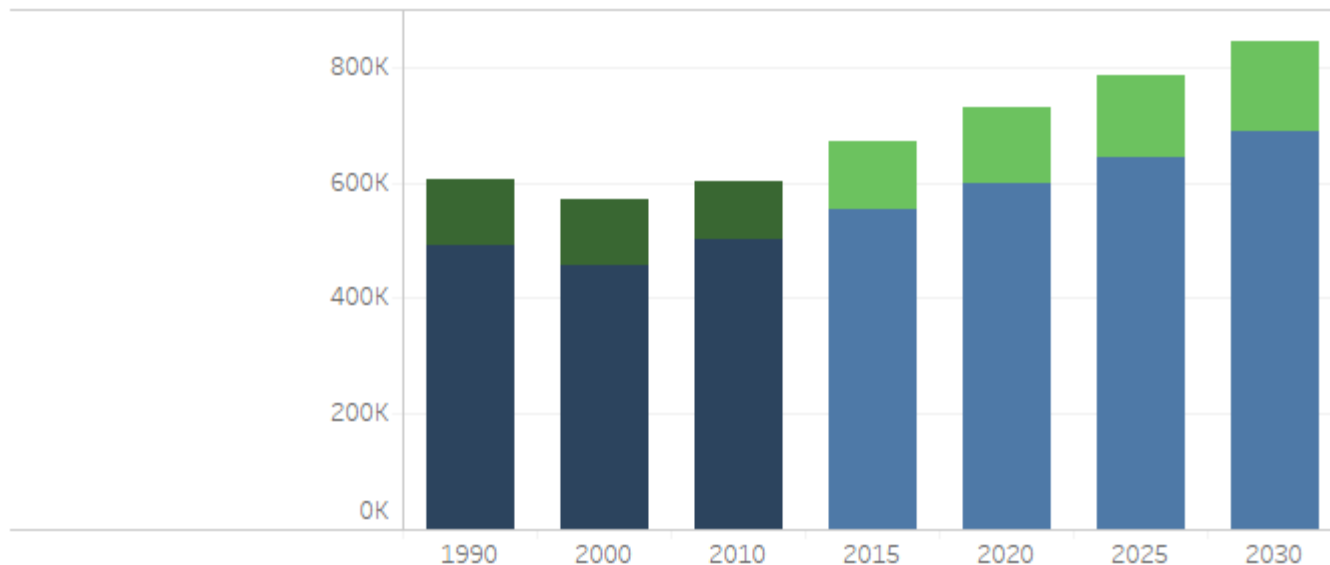


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Forecasted Youth Population Growth

The DC Office of Planning [forecasts](#) that the child population (ages 0-17) will grow at a faster rate than the overall population between 2015 and 2020 (a 11% increase compared to an 8.8% increase, respectively). However, this rate of growth will decrease in later years. The Office of Planning estimates that children ages 0-17 will account for 18.4% of the total population in 2030 compared to 16.8% as of 2010.

Actual and Forecasted Adult and Youth Population in the District, 1990 - 2030



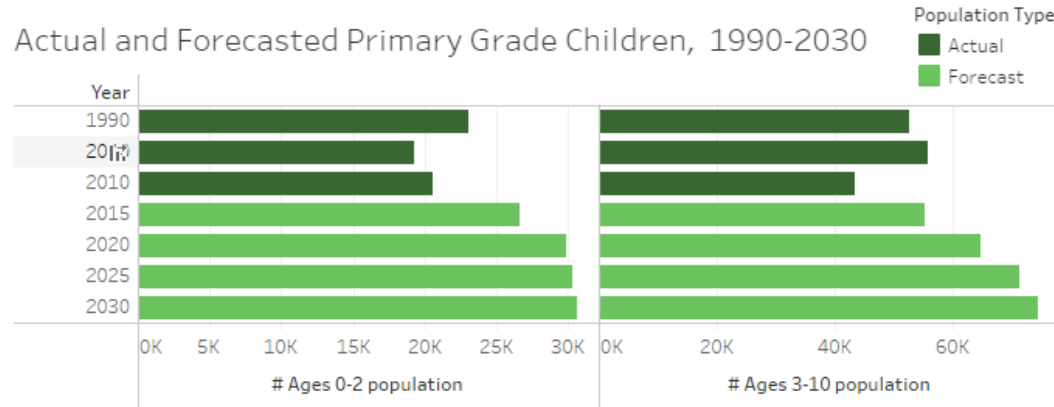
Source: US Census Bureau and DC Office of Planning [Forecasts](#)



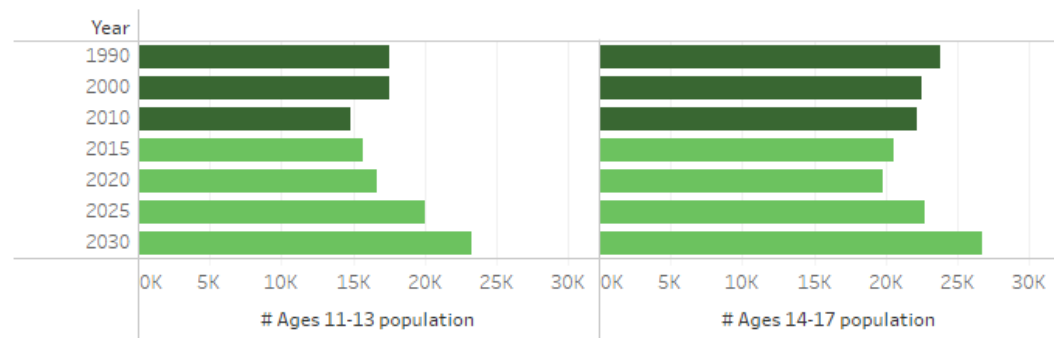
Chapter 1. Population and Students

Forecasted Youth Population Growth by Age Categories

The DC Office of Planning forecasts that the most substantial growth will occur in the elementary age category (ages 3-10) between 2015 and 2020 and then 2020 to 2025 (an increase of more than 9,000 and 6,500 children, respectively). The large increase in infants and toddlers (ages 0-2) that was experienced earlier in the decade tapers off between 2020 and 2025. Middle and high school aged children aren't estimated to start increasing until after 2020.



Actual and Forecasted Secondary Grade Children, 1990-2030



Sources: US Census Bureau and DC Office of Planning [Forecasts](#)

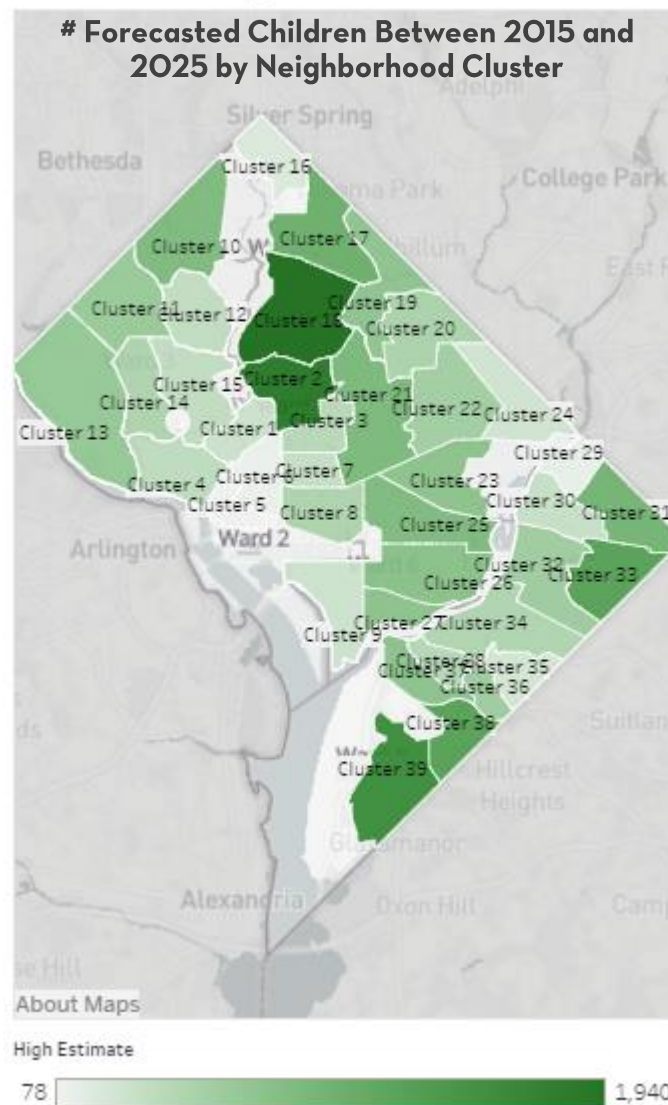


Chapter 1. Population and Students

Forecasted Youth Population Growth by Neighborhood Cluster

The DC Office of Planning forecasts that the largest growth in children ages 0-17 are concentrated in the neighborhoods with already significant number of children. For instance, Brightwood Park/Petworth (Cluster 18) is forecasted to increase by 1,940 children between 2015 and 2025.

The associated on-line dashboard allows the user to understand how many children (ages 0-17) are expected between 2015 and 2025 in each neighborhood cluster, as well as ranks the neighborhood clusters from greatest to least growth.



Source: DC Office of Planning Forecasts



Chapter 1. Population and Students

Sources and Methodology

Sources

Population: US Census Bureau, Population Estimates

Where Adults and Children Live: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019 ACS 1-Year PUMS Files

Student-level enrollment and home addresses: SY2013-14 through SY2020-21 OSSE Audited Enrollment. The following audited enrollment business rules were applied to the audited enrollment files for SY17-18 through SY20-21: 1) The universe of DCPS students include audited UPSFF residents + Non-resident tuition paying + Residency unverified and 2) The universe of public charter students include audited UPSFF residents. Student level data was geocoded by the Office of the Chief Technology Officer with all District-appropriate neighborhood geographies and DCPS boundary rights from the Electronic Boundary Information Rights appended to each student. Home addresses reflect students' residences provided at the time of registration. Registration can occur between the spring prior to the start of the school year up until the enrollment audit, approximately October 5th of the current school year.

Births: DC Department of Health, 2014 Infant Mortality Report. Data provided by DC Action for Children. For years 2007-2019, birth data are from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2007-2018, on CDC WONDER Online Database

Race and Ethnicity of Adults and Children: Census 2020 and 2019 Population Estimates. See downloadable data files for details on the specific data tables used.

Private school enrollment: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Forecasted population: [DC Office of Planning](#)